

Congress of the United States

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 18, 2013

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

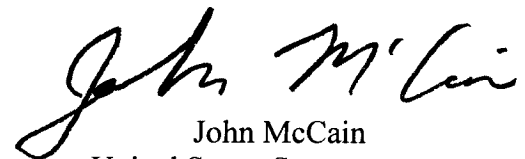
We are writing in support of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) request for an extension of the public comment period for responding to EPA's partial disapproval of Arizona's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP).¹

It is our understanding that ADEQ is seeking to work collaboratively to address issues and EPA-identified deficiencies before the agency takes further action. However, moving forward with substantive revisions to the Arizona SIP will likely trigger the need for ADEQ to provide reasonable notice and a public hearing to interested Arizonans and related stakeholders. The current 42-day public comment period provided by EPA appears to deprive both agencies of this opportunity and instead will force ADEQ to divert its limited resources away from analyzing technical issues raised by EPA and toward drafting comments for the administrative record.

An extension of the comment period would appear consistent with EPA's stated preference "that all emission control requirements needed to protect visibility be implemented through the Arizona State Implementation Plan."² We thank you for your consideration and ask that this matter be handled in strict accordance with existing agency rules, regulations, consent decrees, and ethical guidelines.

Sincerely,

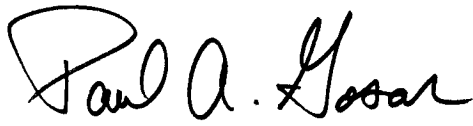

Jeff Flake
United States Senator



John McCain
United States Senator


¹ See 7 Fed. Reg. 75704 to 75737 (Dec. 21, 2012).


² 77 Fed. Reg. 75706 (Dec. 21, 2012).

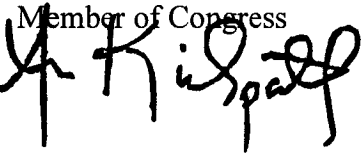

Trent Franks
Member of Congress



Paul Gosar
Member of Congress

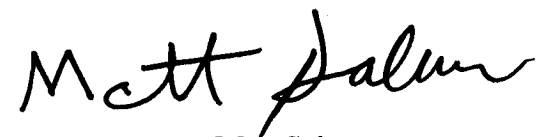

Ron Barber
Member of Congress


Kyrie Sinema
Member of Congress


Ed Pastor
Member of Congress


Ann Kirkpatrick
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David Schweikert
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Matt Salmon
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